

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The claims have been amended to more particularly point out the claimed subject matter. Applicant requests the USPTO to reconsider and allow this case in view of the following remarks.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 7-9, 11, 16-22, 25, 27, 28, 36-39, 44, and 48 over Naito JP 2001-057329. The Examiner stated "Naito JP 2001-057329 teaches a super resolution film of Sb which is contacted a bilayer resist. The resist is exposed using an I line (264 nm), the semiconductor substrate shifted 0.2 microns, the exposure repeated..." Office Action at 2.

Naito describes a super-resolution exposure filter which can be mechanically pressed onto a bi-layer resist on a silicon wafer. Claim 17 as amended requires *inter alia* "depositing a contrast enhancement layer on top of a photoresist comprising a reversible photo bleachable material including nanoparticles." This feature in combination is not taught or suggested by Naito and is believed to fully patentably define the claimed subject matter over Naito.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-22, 25, 27, 28-29, 36-39 and 43-48 based on Naito JP 2001-057329, in view of Iida et al. EP 580346, Ichihara et al. '582, Todori et al. '328 or Liz-Marzan et al. WO 99/291934. Iida, Ichihara and Todori all teach super-resolution techniques for optical disks. Lithography and optical storage are two distinctive fields with different goals and considerations.

All outstanding issues have been addressed and this application is in condition for allowance. Should any minor issues remain outstanding, the Examiner should

contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below so they can be resolved expeditiously without need of a further written action.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Account No. 14-1140.

Respectfully submitted,

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